WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE A. F. OF L., BY INSTRUCTION OF ST. LOUIS CONVENTION, DIRECTED THE OFFICERS AT HEADQUARTERS TO FURNISH A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER, FREE OF COST, TO ALL OFFICIAL LABOR PUBLICATIONS,

Containing a brief summary of important matters, affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will further the development and progress of the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
HEADQUARTERS
801-809 G ST. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.
FRANK MORRISON, SECRETARY SAMUEL GOMPERS, PRESIDENT

No. 65.

SENTENCES REIMPOSED

Justice Wright Again Assesses Prison Sentences Upon President Gompers and Secretary Morrison.

Washington, June 29.—After dragging its weary length the second time through the supreme court of the District of Columbia, the case against President Gompers and Secretary Morrison has reached a conclusion by the infliction of prison sentence of one year for President Gompers and six months for Secretary Morrison for alleged contempt of court, Justice Wright handing down his decision on Monday, June 24, 1912. John Mitchell, a co-defendant in the suit, not being present in court at the rendering of the decision, and who was formerly sentenced to nine months, did not receive any sentence at the hands of the judge. It is understood, however, that upon Mr. Mitchell's return to this city sentence will be pronounced, it being believed that the former sentence of nine months will be reimposed, from the fact that the opinion delivered by the judge indicated that he considered Mr. Mitchell as culpable as the other two Federation officials. After the justice read his decision and imposed the sentences attorneys for the Federation gave notice of appeal. Bonds pending an appeal were provided for and the Federation officials will remain "at large" until the higher court has an opportunity to review the case. Immediately after the cases were disposed of President Gompers gave out the following statement:

"The expected has happened. Justice Wright has held Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Morrison and myself guilty of contempt of court. He has sentenced Mr. Morrison to six months, and me to twelve months' imprisonment. When Mr. Mitchell can come to Washington he will receive his sentence. This decision typifies in an acute manner the contention which labor has made against the practice which has been usurped by courts of equity in dealing, not with property rights, but with personal relations- normal personal activities, a practice entirely at variance with constitution al government, with government by law. In this case the judge has acted the initiator of criminal contempt, appointed the attorneys of private litigants to prepare a complaint and prosecute it to a conclusion. The judge has heard the evidence. He himself determined the credibility of witnesses. He then formulated his decision and executed it by imposing prison sentences. Facts and the evidence in the case have been suppressed and preverted, and the purposes and motives of my colleagues and myself entirely misrepresented. There is not in the evidence, nor can

there be found therein or elsewhere, one single fact upon which to base the statement of Justice Wright that we have violated any law of the state, nation, or the District of Columbia. We have contended that a court has no right in advance to enjoin or prevent publication; that anyone who speaks or publishes anything which is either seditious or libelous should be made to answer before a law court and before a jury, but the attempt in advance to prevent expression of opinion either orally or by publication is an unwarranted invasion of constitutionally guaranteed rights. That for which my associates and I have been contending was for the maintenance of the right of free speech and a free press, and for these we are contending not alone for the rights of the working people, but the right of every citizen of our country. Today it is the effort to take from us the right of free speech and free press. If that practice is once established and conceded, it means a "sacred precedent" to be invoked against any citizen. It is the establishment of a censorship by a judge acting as a chancellor in the court of equity, the establishment of personal government as against government by law, and as personal government establishes itself and advances, so in the same degree is government by law, government by the people, forced back. Justice Wright physically lives in our time, but his decision and sentences disclose a mental concept of more than two centuries ago, when the workman was either a slave or a serf. He does not realize that the workmen of today, at least in the United States, are citizens with every guaranteed right of the constitution, of the laws, and the normal activities of equality before the law. My associates and I have all our lives been engaged in the effort for the protection and promotion of the physical, moral, political, material, and social welfare of the working people, and that means for the uplift and betterment of all our people; for the maintenance and perpetuation of the highest, the best concepts and ideals of justice and freedom; to make, in modern industry, life the better worthliving; to instill the understanding of civic and social duty, as well as the attainment of a better life and a better day. If Justice Wright imagines that by imposing prison sentences upon my associates and myself, he can stop human progress, he has missed his point. Long after he is gone, long after he may have attempted to silence us, others will speak, others will be heard, and the principles for which we are now contending and perhaps may suffer, will be established beyond peradventure. Information just came to me that the decision which Justice Wright rendered this morning was completed more than a month ago, but withheld until after the close of the Chicago Republican National Convention. If true, the inference is obvious.

IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS

Washington, June 29.--The judiciary committee of the House of Representatives have voted unanimously to report articles of impeachment against Judge Robert W. Archibald of the commerce court. The great agitation which has been carried on throughout the country with reference to culpability of judges of the courts finds a concrete expression in the action taken by the judiciary committee. If the house adopts the report it is then the duty of the senate, although at its convenience, to proceed with a trial of the case, as the constitution provides that "the senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments." The judgment rendered, to become effective, must be concurred in by two-thirds of the members present, and the punishment inflicted extend only to removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States. This does not, however, preclude the convicted party from being indicted, tried and punished according to law.

"JIMMY" EGAN'S VIEW

Washington, June 29.--In a recent issue of the Toledo Union Leader, edited by "Jimmy" Egan, the following article, in part, is printed under the caption, "Adopts A. F. of L. Policy:" "Last week Congressmen Berger, Milwaukee Socialist, presented to congress a huge petition signed by 116, 582 individuals favoring a constitutional amendment enabling women to vote on the same terms as men. The petitions have been circulated by the national office of the Socialist party under the immediate charge of the Socialist women's national committee. According to the National Socialist Press, 'the petitioners are men and women in all walks of life, and of different political shades and beliefs.' The petition is a good piece of propoganda, and will result in calling attention to this question as never before. These tactics are the same as used by the American Federation of Labor, and which is denounced as a 'begging policy' by the very men who now use them, and who make much ado over a move that they have condemned most vigorously as 'Gomperism' for lo these many years. It is quite probable, now that the ice is broken, the Socialists will continue to use this very effective means of creating discussions and agitation. # # #"

MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYES

Washington, June 29.--President A. B. Lowe of the International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes reports that several committees of the organization on different railroads having requested conferences with the managing officials for a revision of schedules, have been successful in every instance, even though the points where conferences were asked are at points widely separated. Reports from conference committees on the Boston and Maine, Boston and Albany, Vancouver Island, and Minneapolis and St. Paul, the Nickle Plate, the Coal and Coke, the Virginian, the Seaboard Air Line and the Canadian Northern, are to the effect that on all of these roads there has been secured a revision of the schedule with substantial improvements in rules and rates on new contracts. Another important matter will be concluded shortly when an arbitration award will be handed down at Asheville, N.C., in a wage controversy with the Southern Railway, in which an offer of a considerable increase by the company not being considered sufficient by the committee, arbitration was proposed and accepted.

ASPHALT COMPANY SETTLES

Washington, June 29.--It is reported by Organizer Frayne of New York, that the Barber Asphalt Company at Perth Amboy, N. J., has yielded to the demands of its employes, who have been on strike, and that work has been resumed. While numerous individuals were helpful in bringing about a settlement it is stated that Organizer Arthur Quinn of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, whose home is at Perth Amboy, gave valuable assistance toward securing the settlement of the difficulty. Work was also resumed in the plant of the Standard Underground Cable Company as a result of a settlement. The strikes at the Perth Amboy Cigar Company the Rosenthal Company, manufacturers of handkerchiefs, The Federal Terra Cotta Company, the Vulcan Detinning Company and the C. Pardee Works continue without change. Efforts are being continued to secure concessions. There is also a strike at Hastings, N. Y., where there are 1,200 employees of the National Conduit and Cable Company out. This company, so it is rumored, is a branch of the company located at Perth Amboy with which an agreement has been reached, and it is apprehended that a settlement will be secured with this company in the near future.

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS

Washington, June 29.--The Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, operating under the Department of Commerce and Labor, has just issued its April immigration bulletin. As noted in the Weekly News Letter, in commenting on the March bulletin, the southern Italians headed the list numerically. The April bulletin gives the Southern Italians a still greater lead in numbers, and it would appear from the number of Southern Italians coming to this country that should this same ratio be kept up during the year about 100,000 will be the total. The following is a partial list of foreign immigrants admitted during April: Southern Italians, 18,813; Polish, 10,150; German, 7,238; Irish, 5,604; English, 5,128; Greek, 5,047; Russian, 4,604; Scandinavian, 3,873; Crotian and Slovenian, 3,711; Northern Italians, 3,599; Hebrew, 2,997. The remaining number of immigrants comprise 28 different nationalities. The total immigration for the month of April is 99,839. During this period there were 1,964 aliens debarred. Of this number 985 were debarred because of a likelihood of their becoming a public charge, and 215 were debarred as contract laborers. During this same period also emigrant aliens departed from this country to the number of 18,088.

FUR WORKERS ON STRIKE

New York, June 29.--Between 5,000 and 6,000 fur workers employed in shops in this city are on strike. The demands of the fur workers are for a nine hour workday, the working hours to be from 8 o'clock in the morning to 6 o'clock in the evening, with one hour for lunch, and the Saturday half holiday; that no overtime work shall be done during the months of October, November and December; the abolition of the inside contract system, and that work shall be given out directly from the manufacturer. It is stated that a large number of the manufacturers have conceded that the demands of the union are very moderate and undoubtedly they will shortly sign the agreement and their employes will return to work. In fact, the organizers who are in charge of the strike, state that in all probability the strike will be of short duration and a uniform scale of wages and working conditions will be established to the benefit of the employers as well as the manufacturers themselves.

SECRETARY MEYER REPLIES

Washington, June 29.--A resolution introduced by Senator Hoyburn of Iowa and passed by the senate, calling upon the secretary of the navy for information as to whether any flag, emblem or banner is ever displayed above the stars and stripes in the navy, has been answered by Secretary Meyer, who states that the church pennant is hoisted above the United States flag while religious services are being held aboard a naval vessel. "This provision", says the secretary, "Has been contained in each succeeding edition of the signal code, the last edition published in 1908 containing the following": 'The church pennant is to be hoisted above the ensign during the performance of divine services on board vessels of the navy.'"

FOR MARITIME CONFERENCE

Washington, June 29.--The house has adopted the senate amendments to the house joint resolution authorizing the president to appoint commissioners to represent the United States in an international maritime conference to consider ocean safety regulations. This has been brought about by the Titanic disaster.

LABOR'S SCOPE OF INFLUENCE

Washington, June 29.--It is reported from New York that a circular has been issued by the chairman of the finance committee of the United States Steel corporation to the stockholders announcing that a number of reforms are to be instituted relative to labor conditions. It is stated that these reforms are to be in accord with the recommendations of a committee of stockholders which investigated labor conditions last winter. The circular announces that it is proposed to abolish seven day labor in all the mines, mills, shops, railways, docks and works of the steel corporation except under special circumstances, and then only upon the consent of the finance committee. It is also proposed to eliminate the so-called "long turn" in continuous process work. A committee has also been appointed to consider if any arrangement, with a view to reducing the twelve-hour day, can be made practicable. And thus the scope of organized labor's influence is extending and enmeshing the Molochs of the steel industry.

MOLDERS AND COREMAKERS STRIKE

Holyoke, Mass., June 29.--The effort of the Deane Steam Pump Company to supplant male iron molders and coremakers with women has resulted in a strike against the company. It will be remembered that at the last session of the Massachusetts legislature an effort was made to secure a law prohibiting the employment of women in the mechanical department of iron foundries, but was unsuccessful, although a compromise bill was passed. It has been the evident intention of the company to employ only women in its foundry, and on the plea of "slack work" molders have been discharged. Finally the molders refused to handle the cores made by women and a strike ensued. It is stated that public sentiment is opposed to the action of the company employing women for this work, but the company is obdurate, principally for the reason that the labor of women can be procured at a less cost, which fact alone apparently appeals to the company.

TROLLEY STRIKE AVERTED

Holyoke, Mass., June 29.--A strike of the trolleymen on the Worcester and Connecticut Valley divisions has been averted. For a number of weeks a contest has been imminent, the men demanding a flat rate of 30 cents per hour. The representatives of the men and those of company finally succeeded in evolving a plan whereby an agreement has been reached touching almost all matters in controversy save the wage scale, and according to the agreement the question of wages will be referred to an arbitration board, the union trolley men receding from their demand of a flat rate and agreeing to accept the award of an arbitration in lieu thereof. The action of trolley men is in accord with the established policy of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM ON SEAMEN

Washington, June 29.--The platform adopted by the Republican national convention contains the following section, which, in effect, endorses the seamen's bill now before Congress, and which has been reported out favorably from the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries: "We favor the speedy enactment of laws to provide that seamen shall not be compelled to endure involuntary servitude, and that life and property at sea shall be safeguarded by ample equipment of vessels with life saving appliances and with full complements of skilled, able bodies seamen to operate them."

STEEL CORPORATION WORRIED

Washington, June 29.--The following item, written by a Wall street financial correspondent, appeared recently in one of the leading dailies: "One new cloud, no larger than a man's hand perhaps, but still a cloud, which may give concern, was noted during the week by the leading authorities on the Iron and steel industry. This is the possibilities of labor troubles in that quarter. The Iron Age, in its review of the week's developments, devotes considerable space to the increasing tension of the labor situation at practically all iron and steel works. The drifting of workmen from one operation to another goes on steadily, it says, and many plant managers are finding it difficult in holding their forces. With all the restlessness, however, this authority notes that there are comparatively few strikes, but the demand for higher wages is insistent and the entire tendency throughout the industry is toward higher labor cost."

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS

Indianapolis, June 29.--Since the last issue of the News Letter, Secretary Frank Duffy of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters reports the following trade movements: The carpenters at Norwich, N. Y., have secured an increase in wages from $2.70 to $3.15 per day. At South Farmington, Mass., an increase has been given from 45¢ to 50¢ per hour, the eight-hour day prevailing. At PennYan, N. Y., wages have been advanced from $2.50 to $2.75 per day. The carpenters at Carnonsburg, Pa., have been advanced from $3.00 to $3.25 per day. All of these increases have been secured without strike.

JACKSONVILLE (FLA.) NEWS

Jacksonville, Fla., June 29.--The local lodge of railway conductors in this city recently adopted a resolution that all uniforms hereafter ordered by the Jacksonville lodge must bear the union label. The eight-hour law that recently passed congress has compelled the firm of Merrill-Stevens, one of the largest non-union foundries and ship-yards in this section, to post a notice that on and after July 1 their plant will go to an eight-hour basis. This firm does considerable work for the government.

VOTE ON POLITICAL ACTION

San Francisco, June 29.--Two or three months ago the San Francisco Labor Council set about to ascertain if the various unions affiliated with that body desired to take political action along such lines as would be promulgated by the council. The question was submitted to 149 organizations, only 6o of which voted upon the matter. The vote of those unions sending in returns was 3,116 in favor and 1,936 against. The showing is a disappointment to those who desired to have this question settled from the fact that small interest was taken, as mirrored by the total vote cast.

BUILDING TRADES DEPARTMENT

Washington, June 29.--Since the re-affiliation of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters to the Building Trades Department, A. F. of L., there has been considerable activity in the issuance of charters by the department. During the past week the following charters have been issued. State Building Trades Council of Indiana and charters issued for local councils at Fargo, N. D., Jacksonville, Ill., Jefferson City, Mo., and Kankakee, Ill.

COURT DECISION FOR LABOR

Washington, June 29.--Labor organizations have won another victory in the courts. Recently the Illinois State Supreme Court denied the petition for a rehearing in the case of Milford E. Streeter against the Western Wheeled Scraper Company. Streeter was employed by the above company and lost one of his hands due to the fact that the machine at which he was employed was not safeguarded. Suit was instituted to recover and the lower courts decided against Streeter. Upon appeal to the supreme court, however, that tribunal reversed the lower courts, and upheld the constitutionality of the factory inspection act, as well as holding that the law requiring machinery to be safeguarded must be observed.

HALF MILLION PAID OUT

Cincinnati, June 29.--The Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America established its death benefit fund in August, 1902, and began paying benefits the following February. The per capita tax which supports this death benefit is 5¢ per member per month. The total amount of money paid out from this fund up to January 1, 1912, aggregates $201,400. Local organizations attached to the International usually duplicate the amount received from the international union, so that the estimated amount having been paid out by the international union and local unions runs considerably over $400,000 since death benefits were inaugurated.

COMMERCIAL TELEGRAPHERS

Washington, June 29.--At the recent international convention of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America action was taken looking toward the inauguration of a vigorous campaign of organization among the commercial telegraphers. Another important matter acted upon was the action taken to co-operate with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers with a view to organizing the telephone operators. In the election of officers S. J. Konenkamp of Pittsburgh was re-elected president; John A. Holmes of Winnipeg, vice-president; and Wesley Russell of Chicago re-elected secretary-treasurer.

BOSTON STREET CAR STRIKE

Boston, June 29.--The strike of the street car men in this city is still on, with the company operating a curtailed service with strike-breakers. It is stated that the strike-breaking conductors are compelling the traction company to pay dearly for its strike policy, and many of the instances reported indicate that the company would have been able to save thousands of dollars by dealing with its old employes rather than invest in its present "luxury". The strikers are firm in their stand and it is expected that they will put up a determined fight until an agreement is secured.

UNION LABEL PROSECUTION

Chicago, June 29.--The Cigarmakers' International Union has recently had an unique experience. One of its own members was charged with, tried and convicted of misusing the union label, and as a consequence the label was taken from him. The aggrieved member sued the International Union for damages and the case was stubbornly contested before a jury, the result being that the International Union was awarded a verdict in its favor

POISONS IN INDUSTRY

Washington, June 29.--The Department of Commerce and Labor has just begun the distribution of a bulletin giving for the first time the English translation of the list of industrial poisonings which the International Association for Labor Legislation, through its various affiliates, has been revising and bringing up to date since 1908. The list will be used as a guide for the better recognition of obscure occupational diseases and a help to the prevention of the more obvious risks to health to which many workers are now exposed. During 1911 and 1912 California, Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Wisconsin, Maryland and New Jersey enacted laws requiring reports by physicians of all cases of certain occupational diseases occurring in their practice. The issuance of the bulletin is preliminary to what is to be a nation wide effort to eliminate the use of poisonous materials in the processes of manufacture which leave in their wake occupational diseases.

PERTH AMBOY NEWS

Washington, June 29.--Organizers of the American Federation of Labor reporting from Perth Amboy, N. J., state that the strike against the Ford Terra Cotta company has been settled, the men securing a 15 per cent advance in wages, and an organization perfected of over 300 men. The strike against the American Smelting and Refining Company, involving 1,200 men, has also been settled, the men securing an advance of from 10 to 20 cents per day, with a large portion of the employes signing the charter roll for an organization to be perfected at once. A settlement of the strike against the Underground Cable Company has been reached, involving 600 men, a wage increase ranging from 5 to 12 per cent having been granted. An organization has also been formed and charter applied for. Between 3,000 and 4,000 men and women are on strike against numerous factories for an increase in wages, and indications are favorable for success.

TRANSPORT WORKERS DISINTEGRATE

Washington, June 29.--The National Transport Workers' Federation of America, comprising maritime organizations of the Atlantic coast and gulf, which left their recognized and legitimate international affiliations to form the independent National Transport Workers' Federation of America, is, after a short and momentous career, in the process of dissolution. The longshoremen have withdrawn and are no longer a part of the independent organization. The Marine Cooks and Stewards of the Atlantic have also returned their charter, and instructed "Labor Culture," the official organ of the National Transport Workers' Federation, to drop its name from the roster of affiliates. It is reported that practically all of the organizations participating in the independent movement will return to the recognized international unions of their craft.

NEW MARITIME RULES

Washington, June 29.--New regulations of the steamboat inspection service, applying to life boat equipment on ocean, coastwise, lake, bay, sound and river steamers, which are to become effective July 1, have been sent out from the Department of Commerce and Labor to steamboat inspectors throughout the country for their guidance. The regulations, which are designed to prevent a recurrence of an accident similar to the Titanic disaster, provide that all vessels must carry sufficient life saving equipment to accommodate at one time all persons on board.

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GOVERNMENT AFFECTED BY STRIKE

Washington, June 29.--The result of the textile workers' strike in Lawrence, Mass., demoralized conditions to such an extent in that industry that the government was compelled to withdraw its issue of olive drab cotton fabrics used in manufacturing service clothing. Not until the present week were conditions sufficiently improved to again honor requisitions for clothing to the organized militia. Information coming from the Bureau of Labor is to the effect that the widespread labor difficulties of New England during the past few months has caused the cancellation of scores of private contracts, and that undoubtedly many government contracts have been held up for the same reason.

PITTSBURGH STREET CAR SETTLEMENT

Pittsburgh, June 29.--After numerous conferences held between the representatives of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes and the Pittsburgh Railways' Company, an agreement has been reached which is in the nature of a compromise, but is satisfactory to both sides and went into affect at once. The new scale gives an increase of 1½¢ per hour to all the various classes, with the exception of the second year men, who are to receive an increase of 1¢. President W. B. Mahon assisted in the negotiations.

SHINGLE WEAVERS' NEWS

Seattle, June 29.--The shingle weavers recently signed up agreements with ten shingle mills in and around Everett, Wash., carrying a wage scale that averages over 10% above the international minimum scale. Several of the mills signing the agreement are the largest in the world, and the agreement runs until March 1, 1914. The long continued lockout at Grays' Harbor is still on, but a vigorous fight is being kept up in the hope of winning the contest.

CEMENT WORKERS

San Francisco, June 29.--Local unions attached to the American Brotherhood of Cement Workers have recently been organized in Montreal, Can., by Organizer Flett of the A. F. of L., and in Anaconda, Mont., By Organizer Denny. The Building Trades Council of Buffalo, N. Y., has succeeded in unionizing the cement construction work on the General Electric building, previously having been done by non-union men.

NEW LABOR TEMPLE

San Francisco, June 29.--Architects have completed the plans for the new labor temple to be erected at a cost of about $100,000 at 16th and Capp Streets and construction work will shortly be commenced. The new labor temple will be a five story, fire proof building fitted up with all modern improvements and will afford ample accommodations for all unions affiliated to the San Francisco Labor Council.

TWO NEW LABOR PAPERS

Washington, June 29.--Two new labor papers have recently been launched, one at Pueblo, Colo., and the other at Manchester, N. H. Their first issues make a commendable showing.

IRON, STEEL AND TIN WORKERS

Pittsburgh, June 29.--The conference recently held between the representatives of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers and the Western Bar Iron Association at Buffalo resulted in securing advances for puddlers and bushelers ranging from 5% to 10%, together with securing many improvements in mill practices.

WASHINGTON STATE NEWS

Seattle, June 29.--New central bodies have been recently organized in this state at Centralia, Ellensburg, Pasco and Bremerton. Local typographical unions have been organized at Ellensburg, Bremerton and Centralia and a cooks' and waiters' union at Ellensburg and a federal labor union at Pasco.

COMPOSITION ROOFERS

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 29.--The International Brotherhood of Composition Roofers, Damp and Waterproof Workers of the United States and Canada has recently issued charters in Buffalo, N.Y., and Cleveland, Ohio. The roofers of Patterson, N. J., have been on strike since April 1 for an increase in wages and working agreement.

PULP WORKERS GET AGREEMENT

Washington, June 29.--It is reported that the pulp workers at Mt. Tom, Mass., have secured a new agreement carrying with it a ten cents per day increase, to continue for two years, with all tour workers on the eight-hour day and time and a half for all Sunday work and holidays.

REACH AGREEMENT

Jackson, Mich., June 29.--The committee representing the Street and Electric Railway Employes' Union of the entire Michigan United Traction system, has been successful in securing an agreement for one year. The arrangement is satisfactory to all concerned.

CONGRESS AT STANDSTILL

Washington, June 29.--During the meetings of the two national conventions congress is practically at a standstill. It has been agreed by the leaders of both parties that no legislation of any partisan character will be acted upon during the convention period.

TORONTO CIGARMAKERS

Toronto, June 29.--The cigarmakers of this city have just secured, without difficulty, an increase in their bill of prices of $1 per thousand on hand work and 50¢ per thousand on mould work. This affects about 400 cigarmakers in Toronto, as well as about 100 in Montreal.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARMEN

Kansas City, June 29.--The Brotherhood of Carmen have just recently organized two large local lodges, one at Philadelphia, Pa., and the other at Paragould, Ark.